

Cadet Manufacturing Company Site Vancouver, Washington

Background

The Washington State Department of Health (DOH) is continuing to evaluate the potential health risks associated with the solvent contaminated groundwater at the Cadet Manufacturing Company (Cadet) site. The Cadet site includes the Cadet property, located at 2500 W. Fourth Plain Boulevard, and portions of the nearby Fruit Valley Neighborhood (FVN).

In the past, Cadet used solvents to degrease metal parts before painting. Some of these solvents were released into the environment and are now found dissolved in groundwater below the Cadet property and a portion of the FVN. Sampling conducted by Cadet shows that solvents dissolved in shallow groundwater are vaporizing (evaporating) and moving up through the soil. The solvent vapors may move into your home's indoor air through the crawlspace, cracks, or other openings in building foundations (basement, slab-on-grade) and pose a health risk.



Contaminants evaporating from groundwater and moving up through the soil. (Graphic courtesy of EnviroGroup Limited.)

Breathing low levels of chlorinated solvents is a concern for long periods of exposure, occurring over many years, and can pose some risk for cancer. Breathing moderate levels of solvents over the short term, such as during construction activities, can also pose some health risk.

What You Can Do To Reduce Your Potential Exposure

Exposure to solvents moving from groundwater to indoor air could increase through construction activities like soil excavations, installation of basement sumps, and installation of permanent fans or air conditioners. Blocking crawl space vents could also increase your exposure.

- o **If your home has a crawlspace, please make sure your vents are open and unblocked throughout the year.**
- o **If you are planning construction activities, DOH or the Washington State Department of Ecology (Ecology) staff can provide you with ideas to help you reduce your chance of being exposed to the solvents vaporizing from the contaminated groundwater.**

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